



## Quick Start to Public Health (rev. 6/5/2013)

This Quick Start Guide is intended to be a reference for those new to public health and for those just wanting a quick reference guide. Please contact Teri Caudle in the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), Office of Local Public Health for further information or technical assistance.

**Teri Caudle, RN, BSN**  
**Public Health Nurse Specialist**  
[tcaudle@kdheks.gov](mailto:tcaudle@kdheks.gov)  
**Office Phone:** 785-296-4485

**Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE):** Explore all the Divisions and Bureaus within KDHE at: <http://www.kdheks.gov/>

- **Bureau of Community Health Systems: Office of Local Public Health**  
[http://www.kdheks.gov/olrh/local\\_health.html](http://www.kdheks.gov/olrh/local_health.html)

Here you will find links to the monthly public health news letter, "Connections", Local Health Department Directory, Aid to Local Grant Process, Regional Public Health Meeting information, and more!

### **Training and Competency Assessment**

**Join KS-TRAIN at:** <http://ks.train.org>. You may search for courses by topic, provider, or competency.

Take the "**Competency Assessment**" (link located across top home page) to determine training areas that would be appropriate for your individual training plan. You will find steps to:

- Find the competency assessment that most relates to you (Tier 1, 2, or 3)
- Download the assessment to your computer
- Upload it to your KS-TRAIN account
- It will then be available in your KS-TRAIN Learning account

### **Public Health Topics:**

#### **1. Accreditation**

Materials to assist with accreditation efforts are posted on the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) website at: <http://www.phaboard.org/>

#### **2. Centers for Disease Control (CDC)** <http://www.cdc.gov/>

The CDC is one of the major operating components of the Department of Health and Human Services

#### **3. Community Health Assessment and Improvement**

- **Resource Center for Community Health Assessments and Community Health Improvement Plans**

<http://www.naccho.org/topics/infrastructure/CHAIP/chachip-online-resource-center.cfm>

The Resource Center for Community Health Assessments and Community Health Improvement Plans (CHA/CHIP Resource Center) provides practical, customizable tools and resources to all local health departments (LHDs) in a central and publicly accessible location.

- **Kansas Health Matters** <http://www.kansashealthmatters.org/index.php>

Kansas Health Matters is a one stop source of non-biased data and information about community health in Kansas. It is intended to help hospitals, health departments, policy

makers, community planners and members learn about issues, identify improvements and collaborate for positive change

- **KU Community Tool Box – Guidance for MAPP**  
[http://ctb.ku.edu/en/tablecontents/chapter2\\_section13.aspx](http://ctb.ku.edu/en/tablecontents/chapter2_section13.aspx)

## 5. Core Competencies

The Core Competencies for Public Health Professionals

(Core Competencies) are individual skills desirable for the delivery of Essential Public Health Services. Intended levels of mastery (and therefore learning objectives for workers within each Tier) will differ depending on one's background, job duties, and years of experience.

**Tier 1** professionals who carry out day-to-day tasks and aren't in management positions

**Tier 2** apply to individuals with program management and/or supervisory responsibilities

**Tier 3** apply to individuals at a senior/management level and leaders of public health organizations

- **Core Competencies Tools**

[http://www.phf.org/programs/corecompetencies/Pages/Core\\_Public\\_Health\\_Competencies\\_Tools.aspx](http://www.phf.org/programs/corecompetencies/Pages/Core_Public_Health_Competencies_Tools.aspx)

Public health professionals are encouraged to use these tools for performance evaluation, training, and workforce development planning.

## 6. Evaluation

- **Toolkit:** Getting the most out of your program, getting the most for your program:  
[http://www.medicalreservecorps.gov/File/MRC\\_Resources/Evaluation\\_Toolkit\\_Overview\\_5-2\(1\).pdf](http://www.medicalreservecorps.gov/File/MRC_Resources/Evaluation_Toolkit_Overview_5-2(1).pdf)
- **CDC's Program Evaluation Web Site** <http://www.cdc.gov/eval/>

## 7. Grants and Funding

- <http://phpartners.org/grants.html>  
Opportunities for fellowships, grants and other awards, including awards from members of the Partners project. Resources related to proposal writing.
- <http://www.cdc.gov/stltpublichealth/GrantsFunding/grant-writing.html>  
The CDC grants information website provides policy guidelines, references, answers to frequently asked questions, and more.

## 8. Kansas Public Health Statutes and Regulations <http://www.kpha.camp8.org/>

These can be found under "documents" in the "members section" only of the KS Public Health Association. This alone is worth your membership dues!

## 9. National Network of Libraries of Medicine <http://nnlm.gov/hip/>

Portal to multiple sites of health information on the Web

## 10. Office for State, Tribal, Local and Territorial Support (OSTLTS) <http://www.cdc.gov/ostlts/>

OSTLTS's mission is to improve the capacity and performance of the public health system

## 11. Public Health Finance [www.publichealthfinance.org](http://www.publichealthfinance.org)

The site provides content to advance the application of finance and management concepts to the practice of public health.

- **Public Health Finance Boot Camp**

<http://www.publichealthfinance.org/training-and-education/2875>

A set of six *Public Health Finance Tutorials* that cover finance knowledge and skills vital to public health managers. These tutorials are self-contained and can be used either as the basis for professional development programs or to supplement academic healthcare finance courses.

- I Financing Public Health Services
- II Estimating Costs and Margins
- III Financial Planning and Budgeting
- IV Financial Evaluation of New Program Initiatives

## 12. Public Health Law

- **CDC Public Health Law Program** <http://www2a.cdc.gov/phlp/>  
 The Public Health Law Program is part of the Office for State, Tribal, Local and Territorial Support (OSTLTS). Public health law examines the authority of the government at various jurisdictional levels to improve the health of the general population within societal limits and norms
- **The Network for Public Health Law** <http://www.networkforphl.org/>  
 The Network for Public Health Law provides insightful legal assistance, helpful resources and opportunities to build connections for local, tribal, state and federal officials; public health practitioners; attorneys; policy-makers; and advocates.
- **Official website of the Kansas State Legislature** <http://www.kslegislature.org/li/>
- When you join the **Kansas Public Health Association** at: <http://kpha.camp8.org/>, you have access to the **2012 KPHA Public Health Statutes and Regulations**.

## 13. Public Health Performance Improvement

- **National Network of Public Health Institutes (NNPHI)**  
<http://nnphi.org/program-areas/accreditation-and-performance-improvement>  
 NNPHI has long recognized the value of supporting agency and systems improvement and has engaged in many activities to support accreditation and performance improvement in public health.
- **CDC Performance Management and Quality Improvement**  
<http://www.cdc.gov/stltpublichealth/performance/resources.html>  
 Selection of links that will help to meet the varied needs of state, local, tribal and territorial health departments in exploring performance management and quality improvement.

## 14. Public Health Preparedness

- **KDHE Preparedness Web Site** <http://www.kdheks.gov/cphp/index.htm>
- **CDC Emergency Preparedness and Response Site** <http://www.bt.cdc.gov/>
- **Public Health Emergency Preparedness federal guidance documents**,  
<https://www.cfd.gov/?s=program&mode=form&tab=step1&id=daf5594198d0ff7408b7e0804b8a50a8>
- **The Healthcare Preparedness Capabilities: National Guidance for Healthcare System Preparedness**  
<http://www.phe.gov/Preparedness/planning/hpp/reports/Documents/capabilities.pdf>

## 15. Quality Improvement

### QI Training:

- **Kansas Train Courses:**
  - **Your Local Health Department: Introduction to QI**, 30 minutes [Course ID 1034871](#)

### QI Resources:

- **NACCHO Accreditation & QI Resources for Local Health Departments**

<http://qiroadmap.org/>

The QI Roadmap provides LHDs with guidance on progressing through six phases or levels of QI maturity until a culture of quality has been reached and can be sustained.

### Books:

- **Public Health Quality Improvement Encyclopedia: Public Health Foundation:**  
[http://www.phf.org/resourcestools/Pages/Public\\_Health\\_Quality\\_Improvement\\_Encyclopedia.aspx](http://www.phf.org/resourcestools/Pages/Public_Health_Quality_Improvement_Encyclopedia.aspx)

## 16. Strategic Plans

- **NACCHO Accreditation Prerequisite: Strategic Plan**  
<http://naccho.org/topics/infrastructure/accreditation/strategic-plan.cfm>

## 17. Ten Essential Services of Public Health

The Essential Services provide a working definition of public health and a guiding framework for the responsibilities of local public health systems. <http://www.cdc.gov/nphpsp/essentialservices.html>

## ORGANIZATIONS:

1. **American Public Health Association (APHA)** <http://www.apha.org/>  
The American Public Health Association is the oldest and most diverse organization of public health professionals in the world (since 1872.)
2. **Association of State and Territorial Health Officials** <http://www.astho.org/>  
ASTHO is the national nonprofit organization representing the public health agencies of the United States, the U.S. Territories, and the District of Columbia, as well as the 120,000 public health professionals these agencies employ.
3. **Council on Linkages between Academia and Public Health Practice**  
<http://www.phf.org/programs/council/Pages/default.aspx/index.htm>  
The Council on Linkages between Academia and Public Health Practice (Council on Linkages) is a coalition of representatives from 19 national organizations.
4. **Kansas Association of Local Health Departments (KALHD)** <http://www.kalhd.org/>  
KALHD is dedicated to strengthening local health departments for the purpose of improving and protecting the health of all Kansans
5. **Kansas Environmental Health Association (KEHA)** <http://www.e-keha.org/>  
KEHA is an affiliate of the National Environmental Health Association and the International Association of Food Protection.
6. **Kansas Health Foundation** <http://www.kansashealth.org/aboutus>  
The Kansas Health Foundation is a private philanthropy dedicated to improving the health of all Kansans.
5. **Kansas Health Institute (KHI)** <http://www.khi.org>  
The Kansas Health Institute was established in 1995 by the Kansas Health Foundation to be an information resource for state policymakers.  
**\*\*Sign up for their news feed at:** <http://www.khi.org/accounts/register/>. \*\*
6. **Kansas Public Health Association (KPHA)** <http://www.kpha.us/>  
The Kansas Public Health Association (KPHA) is the professional association for Kansas's public health practitioners, professionals, and advocates.
7. **Public Health Foundation (PHF)** <http://www.phf.org/>  
The Public Health foundation (PHF) is dedicated to achieving healthy communities through research, training, and technical assistance.
8. **National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO)**  
<http://www.naccho.org/>

The National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) is the national organization representing local health departments.

**9. National Association of Local Boards of Health (NALBOH)**

<http://www.nalboh.org/>

NALBOH is dedicated to preparing and strengthening boards of health.

**10. National Network of Public Health Institutes NNPHI** <http://www.nnphi.org/>

Support national public health system initiatives and strengthen PHIs to promote multi-sector activities resulting in measurable improvements of public health structures, systems, and outcomes.

**11. Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB)** <http://www.phaboard.org/>

PHAB is the accrediting body for national public health accreditation.

**12. Public Health Partners** <http://phpartners.org/index.html>

Public Health Partners is a collaboration of U.S. government agencies, public health organization and health sciences libraries.

**\*\*Subscribe to the weekly announcement-only list of new resources\*\***